

men; and if by nature wild, they would not have grazed so near mens habitations, had there been any body in them. I rather believe some hermit has formerly lived there, and is either dead or gone. *Avarado*, who at that time had neither heard nor seen any thing that could contradict what I said, began to acquiesce, and went on.

Being come within the reach of plain discernment, we were surpris'd: If these, *I*, be the works of savages, they far exceed our expert artists. Their regularity appears unconfined to the rules of art, and complete architecture without the craft of the artist; nature and time only being capable of this perfection. They were neither houses, huts, nor arbours; yet had all the usefulness and agreement of each.

Having sufficiently admired the uncommon beauty of the outside without interruption but rather diverted by the most agreeable harmony of various singing birds, we had the curiosity to see the inside; and being nearest the middlemost, we examined the first. It was about nine feet high, as much square; the walls were straight and smooth, covered with green leaves, something like those of a mulberry tree, lying as close and regular as slates on a slated house: The

sides, when he was grown up, the wild ones would not suffer him amongst them; so that he was forced to remain with me. I had another before this; but he, I may say, was sent by Providence, both to be an help and diversion to me; for he was so knowing, that he took a deal of labour off my hands, and dispersed many anxious hours, which the irksomeness of my solitude had at first created. It is now about twelve years since; for I keep a memorial, which indeed I designed to have been a journal, but I unfortunately let the regular order of days slip out of my memory; however, I observed a seventh day, and reckoned the years from winter to winter, so I cannot well mistake.

One day when I had roasted a quantity of roots, which I eat instead of bread, having spread them on my table and chest to cool, in order to lay them by for use, I went out, leaving my door open to let the air in.

Having walked an hour or two, I returned home, where I found a monkey, whom the smell of the roots had brought; who during my absence had been eating. My presence very much surpris'd him, yet he still kept his place, only discontinued eating, staring me in the face: This unexpected

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